

NSC BRIEFING

22 May 1957

**SOVIET EFFORT TO REVIVE EAST-WEST CULTURAL EXCHANGES**

- I. G. A. (Yuri) Zhukov appointed chairman of new "State Committee for Cultural Ties with Foreign Countries," by 21 May decree. Zhukov, deputy editor of Pravda, was longtime foreign correspondent, has many international contacts.
  - A. Move is part of comprehensive Soviet effort to rejuvenate "peaceful coexistence" campaign which came to dead stop as result of Soviet actions in Hungarian revolt and Suez crisis.
  - B. New committee, directly responsible to Council of Ministers, will give coordination and policy direction to steadily expanding cultural exchange program.
- II. Soviet plans for cultural exchanges in 1957 include:
  - A. Visits by artistic companies and individuals to more than 60 countries, About 5,000 people involved.
  - B. These figures do not include corresponding efforts by Communist China and Satellites--possibly equal to Soviet program.
  - C. Committee will handle scientific exchanges as well. This year, Soviet Bloc will attend average of one scientific meeting per day in Free World.

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DOCUMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐  
☒ DECLASSIFIED  
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C  
NEXT REVIEW DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
AUTH: HFR 70-2  
DATE 1-16-80 REVIEWER: 372044